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**U.S. ATTORNEY PATRICK MEEHAN AND LEHIGH COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM MARTIN TO DEBUT GUN CRIME
DOCUMENTARIES TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS, PRISONS, AND
JUVENILE FACILITIES**

**Videos Warn Youth And Convicted Felons About The Consequences Of Gun Crime
And Violence – Personal Stories Of Victims Featured**

PHILADELPHIA – You'll hear from three young men, about the same age, all serving life sentences – one behind bars and two in a wheelchair. Their three distinct stories are linked as living examples of the consequences of gun crime.

"This video shows in an instant how one bullet can forever alter the course of someone's life," said Meehan, whose office produced the documentary as part of *Project Sentry*, a federal initiative which focuses on the prosecution and deterrence of juvenile gun crime, including school related gun violence, and the prosecution of adults who illegally furnish firearms to juveniles. This video is scheduled to become part of the curriculum in the Philadelphia School District.

A second video, shot within the prison walls in Lancaster County, serves as a warning to inmates facing release about the consequences of violating federal gun laws. The video will deliver a simple message to convicted felons: if you have prior convictions, get caught with a gun and your case is taken federally, you will likely face years in a federal prison.

The video productions are part of *Project Safe Neighborhoods*, a Department of Justice initiative designed to identify and prosecute firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction. From September 2001 through April 2004, the United States Attorney's Office, local district attorney's offices, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other federal, state, and local agencies, have worked together to indict 793 defendants who have received an average prison sentence of nine years.

Funding for the campaign is provided by a Justice Department Community Outreach Partnership Grant. The U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania has partnered with CrimeAlert Berks County, which receives the grant money designated to fund the *Project Safe Neighborhoods* outreach effort.

Media Note: Copies of the videos will be available at the press conference.